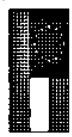


Baptism of Fire



*Soldiers & Civilians at the
First Battle of Manassas*



Student Activity Guide

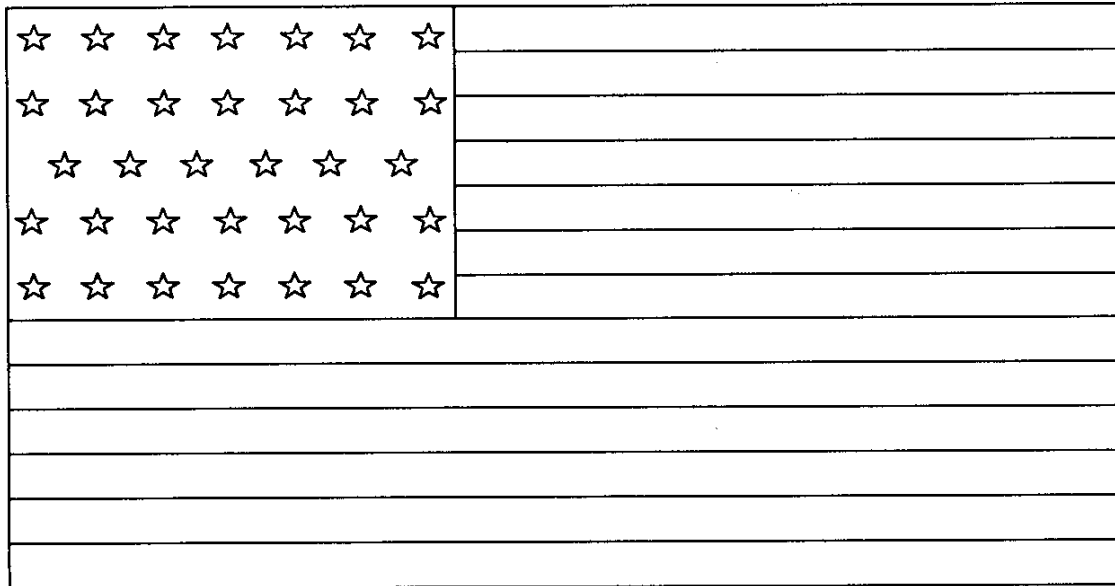
To all whom it may Concern:

Know ye, That of
..... County, is hereby Enlisted in Company,
..... Regiment ofVOLUNTEERS on this, the
day of one thousand eight hundred and
to serve years or during the war. (No objection to his being
enlisted is known to exist).* Said was born
in in the state of
is years of age, feet inches high,
.....complexion, eyes, hair, and
by occupation, when enrolled a
Given at this day of
..... 186.....

* This sentence will be erased should there be anything
in the conduct or physical condition of the soldier
rendering him unfit for the Army.

Wm. W. Gordon

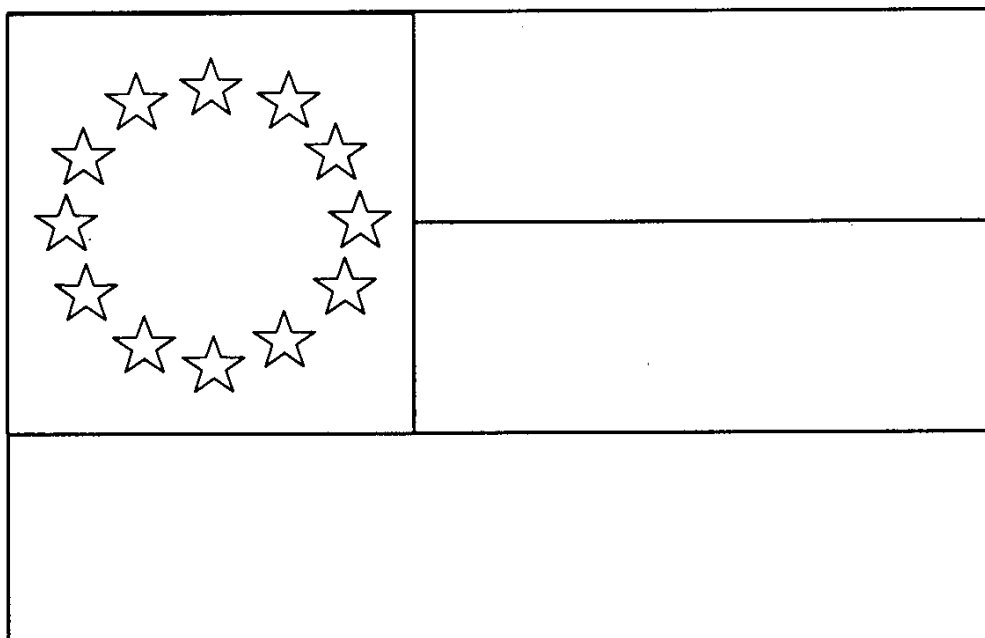
Commanding the Regiment

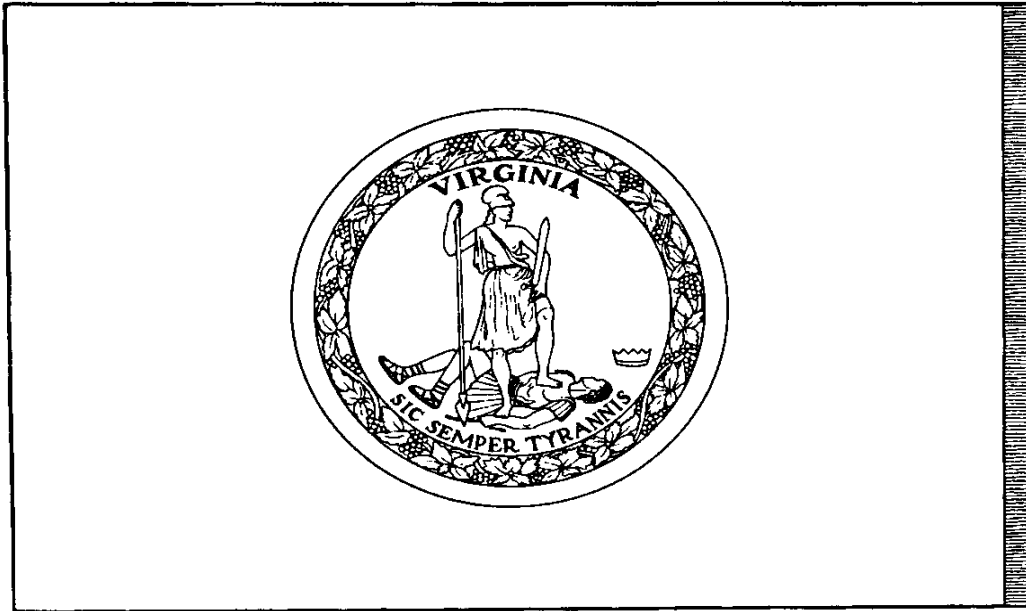


National Flags

Civil War soldiers always carried flags, or colors, when they went into battle. Because the flags were often made by the women of the town in which the men lived, the colors served as reminders of the soldiers' homes and families. On the battlefield, the colors had the practical importance of guiding the troops during the battle. By following the colors of their unit, the men would keep from getting lost in the confusion and chaos of battle. The national colors, or flags of each country, are pictured here. The United States of America, or Union, flag is shown above, while the First National Flag of the Confederate States of America is below.

Color each of the flags, using the color key on the following pages. After they are colored, compare and contrast the two flags. If you were a soldier, what problems might these flags cause you? Given what you already know about the United States flag, how many states were in the Union during the First Battle of Manassas? In the Confederate States?

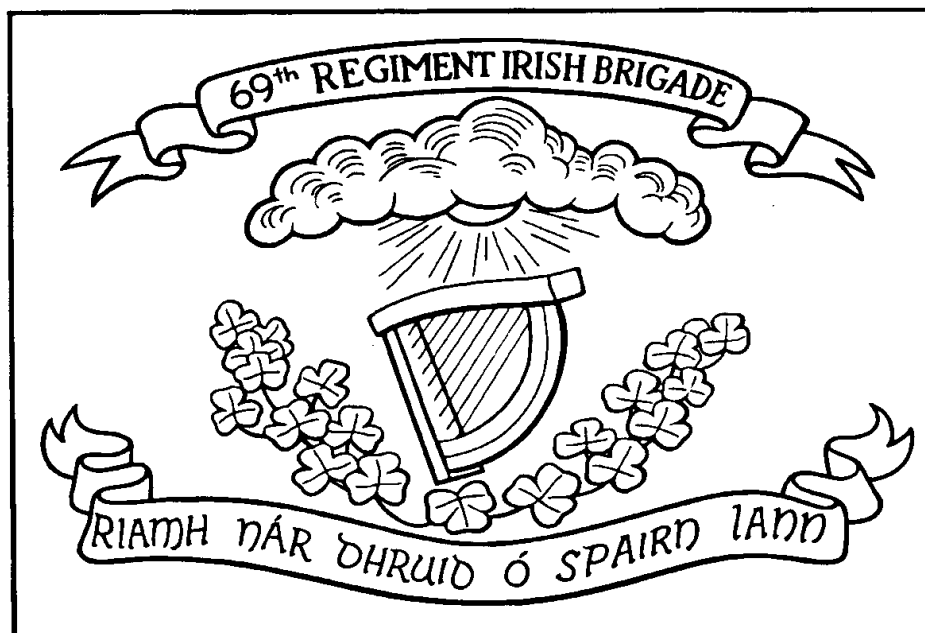


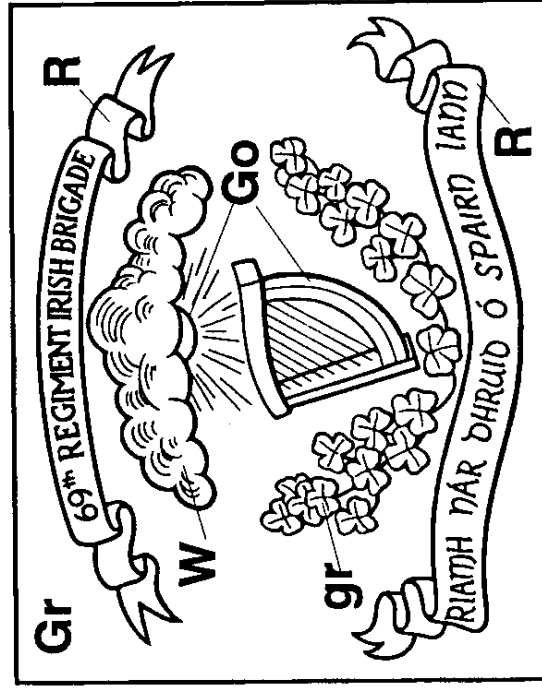
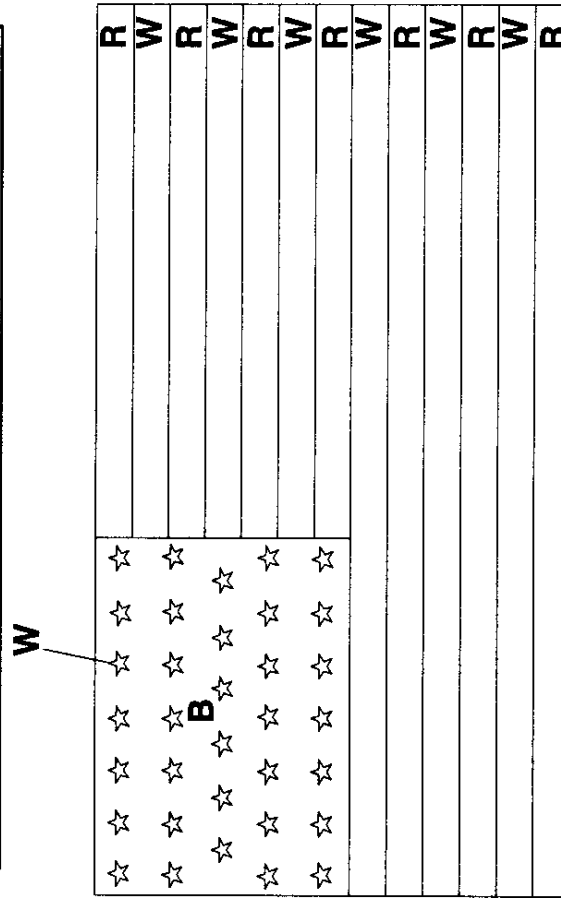
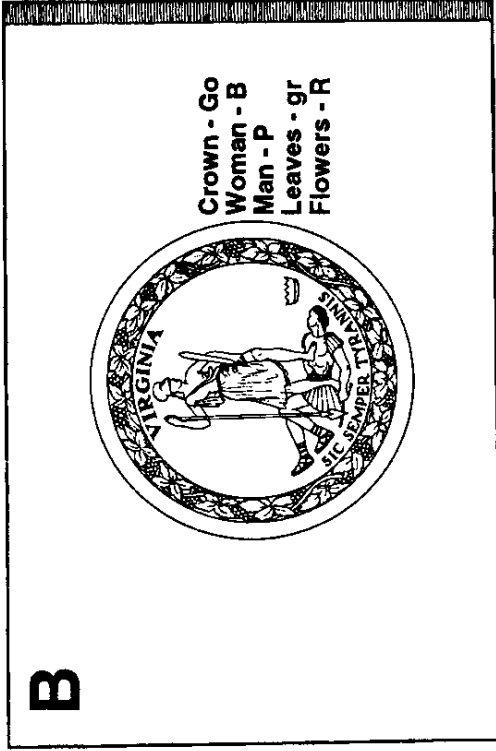
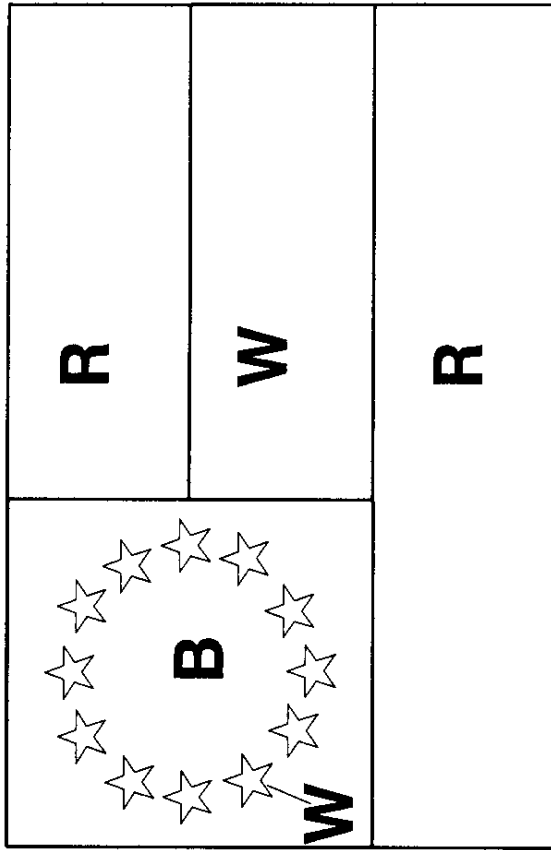


Battle Flags

Each regiment in an army carried a unique flag into battle known as the regimental colors. These flags were designed by the men in the unit to set them apart from others and, often times, to provide information about the unit. Pictured on this page are the regimental colors of two units that fought at the First Battle of Manassas. Above, are the colors carried by the 27th Virginia Infantry. On the afternoon of the battle, the men of the 27th fought against and probably saw the flag of the 69th New York Infantry, who carried colors similar to those pictured below.

Color each of the flags, using the color key on the following page. After they are colored, examine them closely. Which one tells you more about the regiment who carried it? What can you learn about the unit? Which of the flags would you prefer to follow in battle? Why?





Color Key

B - Dark blue
Go - Gold

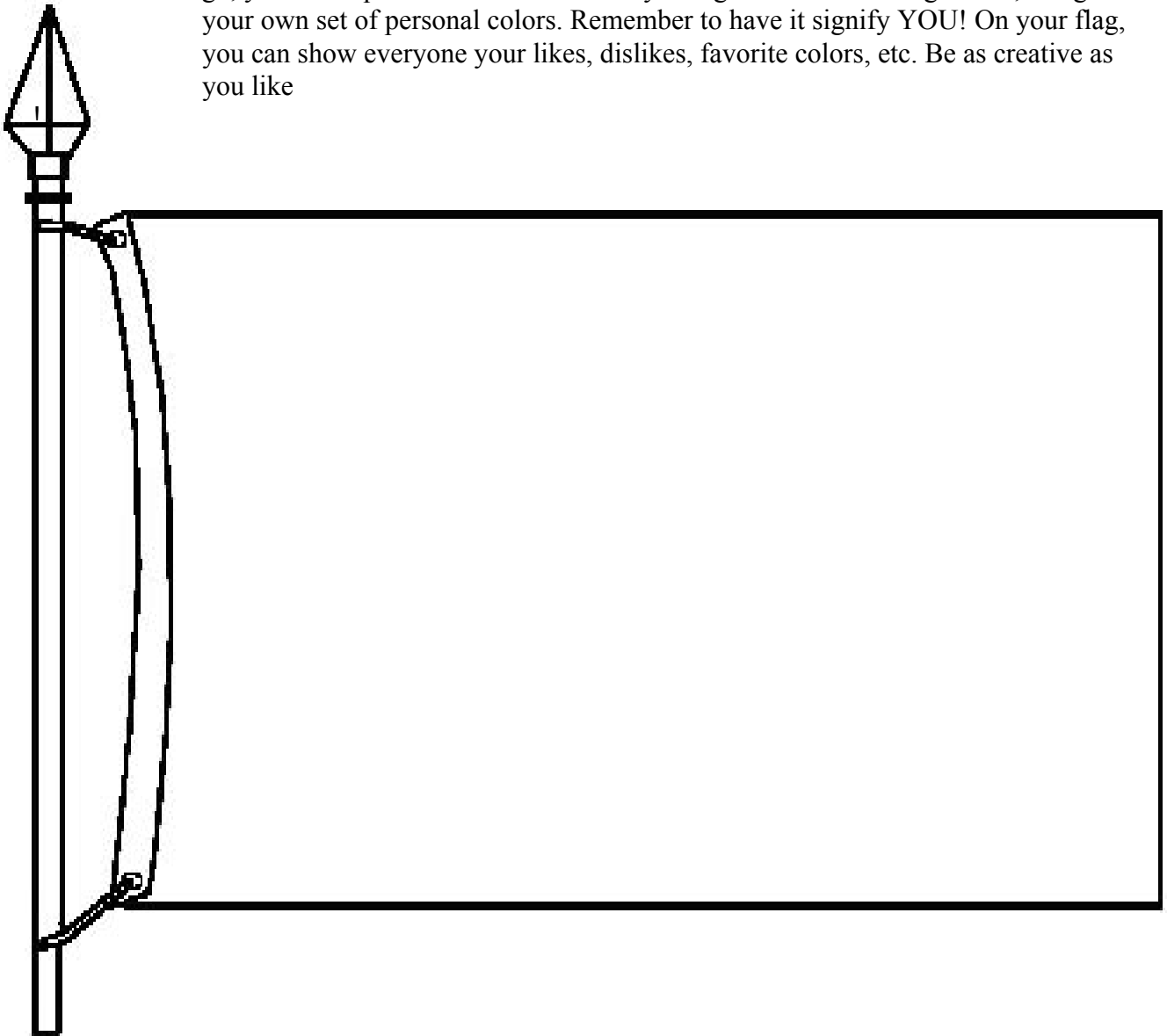
gr - Light green
R - Red
P - Purple

W - White
Gr - Dark green

Activity

As you have learned, flags and regimental colors were often designed to provide information about a particular unit. For example, the 69th New York Infantry was made up primarily of Irish immigrants. Their flag was decorated with shamrocks, an Irish harp, and other symbols of their homeland. Even the color, Irish green, was a reminder of home.

Imagine yourself a general commanding troops in the Civil War. Wherever you go, your headquarters will be marked by a flag. On the blank flag below, design your own set of personal colors. Remember to have it signify YOU! On your flag, you can show everyone your likes, dislikes, favorite colors, etc. Be as creative as you like



After First Manassas: The War Goes On

Despite what many of the soldiers thought prior to the battle, thousands of men were killed or wounded during the First Battle of Manassas. The men in both the Union and Confederate armies now realized that being a soldier was a far more dangerous occupation than many of them had initially realized. They also started thinking that the war would not end after just this one battle and that they would have to be prepared to fight again.

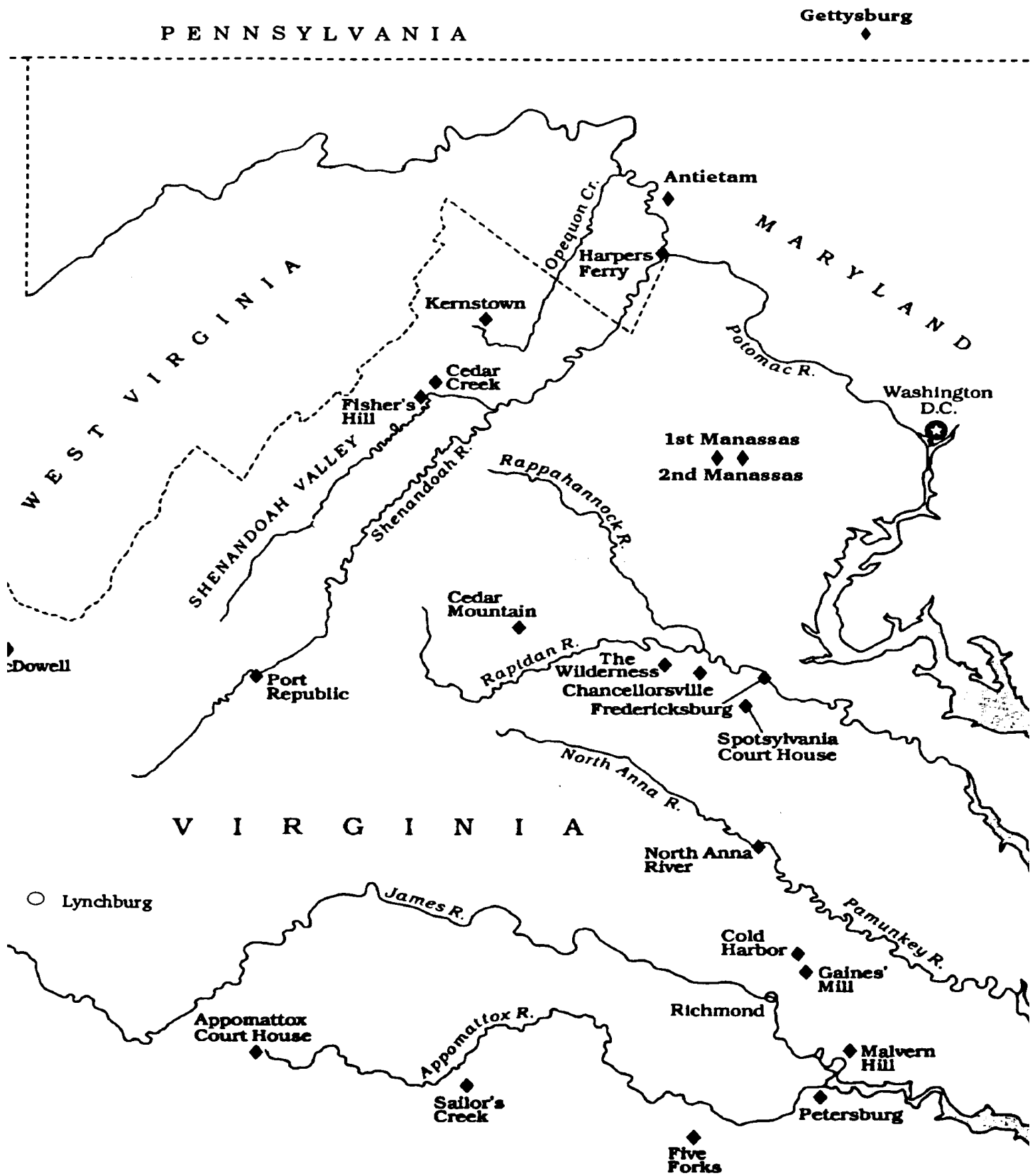
Activity: Of the Confederate regiments who fought at First Manassas, the 27th Virginia suffered some of the highest casualties. Considering just the soldiers you and your classmates studied, answer the following questions:

1. How many total men who fought in the battle did your class study? _____
2. How many of the soldiers in your class were casualties in the battle? _____
3. Express as a fraction the number of men who were not casualties in the battle: _____
4. Of just the casualties, express as a percentage the number of men:
 - a. Who were wounded: _____
 - b. Who were killed: _____
 - c. Who were captured: _____

The First Battle of Manassas was just one of many Civil War battles that the 27th Virginia Infantry would fight in. By the time the war ended in April, 1865, the 27th Virginia had participated in 49 campaigns, battles, and engagements. Many of the men who had survived the First Battle of Manassas would not be so lucky later on. Your teacher will provide you with information regarding what happened to your soldier later in the Civil War.

Activity: Read over the information provided by your teacher. Then, using the map on the next page, do the following activities. This map shows some of the important battles that the 27th fought in.

1. With a red crayon, circle the battle(s) in which your soldier was wounded.
2. With a blue crayon, circle the battle(s) in which your soldier was captured.
3. With a green crayon, circle the battle where your soldier was killed.
4. How far apart were the opposing capitals during the Civil War? _____
5. At the end of the war, the 27th Virginia surrendered at Appomattox Court House. If the survivors lived in Lexington, Virginia, how far did they have to travel to get home? _____
6. If the battles in which the 27th Virginia Infantry fought were put in alphabetical order for a newspaper article, how would the list look? Put this list on another piece of paper.



CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS IN EASTERN VIRGINIA



By now you have learned a great deal about your soldier who fought with the 27th Virginia, not only at the First Battle of Manassas, but also in the rest of the Civil War. Now pretend you are the editor of the obituary column at the Lexington Gazette. You have just received word that your soldier has died. Write an obituary for your soldier. Use the information you learned in class before your trip, what you learned with the Park Ranger at Manassas National Battlefield Park, and what you have learned since your trip. Be creative! Remember, this is an obituary.

The Lexington Gazette

For Further Information....

If you enjoyed this unit on the First Battle of Manassas, you may enjoy reading some of the books listed below. You can probably find them at your school or local library. Ask your parents or teacher to help you locate them:

Atlas Video. **Civil War: The Fiery Trial.** New York, NY: Atlas Video Productions, 1988. 35 minutes (video).

Bennet, Barbara J. **Stonewall Jackson: Lee's Greatest Lieutenant.** Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Silver Burdett Press, 1991

Eastern National Park and Monument Association. **Virginia's Civil War Parks.** Chicago, IL: Finley-Holiday Film Corp., 1989. 55 minutes (video).

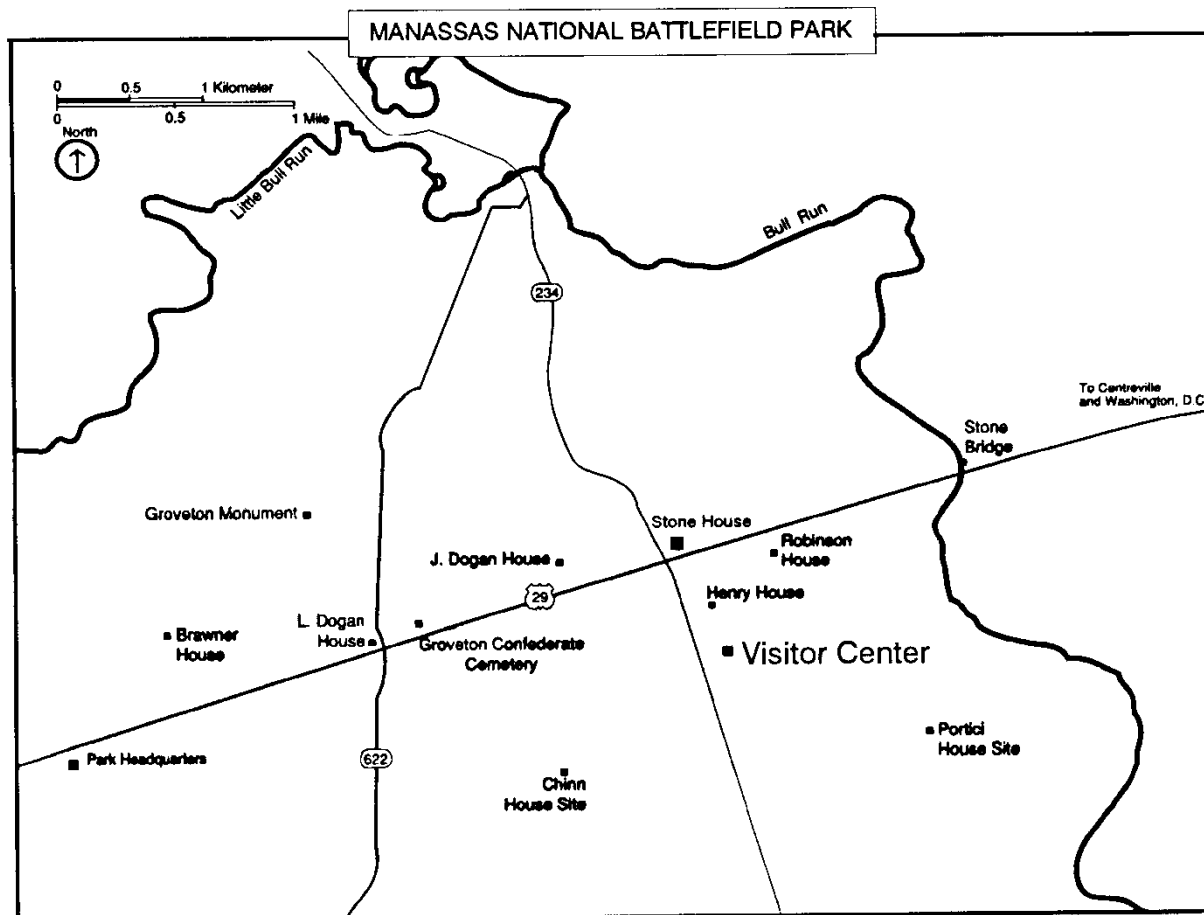
Flato, Charles. **The Golden Book of the Civil War.** New York, NY: Golden Press, 1961. 216 pp.

Fritz, Jean. **Stonewall.** New York, NY: Puffin Books, 1979. 152 pp.

Kent, Zachary. **Cornerstones of Freedom: The Story of the Battle of Bull Run.** Chicago, IL: Children's Press, 1986. 30 pp.

Murphy, Jim. **Boy's War: Confederate and Union Soldiers Talk About the Civil War.** New York, NY: Clarion books, 1991. 110 pp.

Robertson, James I. Jr. **Civil War! America Becomes a Nation.** New York, NY: Alfred Knopf, 1992. 184 pp.



“Baptism of Fire” is just one of many exciting programs offered at Manassas National Battlefield Park. We hope you will return to the battlefield soon and explore some of the many areas that you did not visit on your classroom trip. For further information on this or the many other programs offered, write or visit the battlefield at:



Manassas National Battlefield Park
6511 Sudley Road
Manassas, VA 20109
www.nps.gov/mana

